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**PROPOSED REGIONAL AGENDA FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:
LINKAGES WITH THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**



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The regional agenda for inclusive social development—which aims to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly in areas related to the mandates of ministries of social development and equivalent bodies—can be conceived as an instrument founded both on the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda that are directly and indirectly related to the social dimension, and on the main populations, themes and means of implementation covered in the regional and subregional commitments on social development that have been adopted in intergovernmental fora attended by ministries of social development or equivalent bodies (see diagram 1). The regional agenda also incorporates specific themes that are relevant to inclusive development in the region but that are not covered in the above-mentioned instruments. The present document provides information on the links between them.

Diagram 1
Relationship between the regional agenda for inclusive social development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and agreements on social development



Source: Prepared by the authors.

The relationship between the regional agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can be analysed at different levels: their guiding principles (macro level), the axes of the regional agenda and the SDGs (meso level), and the lines of action of the regional agenda and SDG targets (micro level). The high degree of overlap between the two instruments stems from the fact that the regional agenda is intended to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with a regional approach.

A. PRINCIPLES

A close look at the eight guiding principles of the regional agenda and those that are reflected in the Declaration contained in the 2030 Agenda shows a great degree of similarity. While not all the principles of the regional agenda are mentioned in the 2030 Agenda, there is a clear correlation between them.

The first principle laid out in the regional agenda establishes the rights-based approach as a normative principle, as this is the very foundation on which its axes and lines of action can be aligned. There are several mentions throughout the 2030 Agenda of the commitment to human rights, as seen in the statement that it is “grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties, the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome” (United Nations, 2015, para. 10).

The second, empowerment and autonomy, is founded on the importance of greater empowerment and autonomy for all stakeholders of society to achieve genuine integration and is also enshrined in the 2030 Agenda. The Declaration contained therein states that “people who are vulnerable must be empowered” (United Nations, 2015, para. 23), and this is also directly related to the principle of universalism that is sensitive to differences set forth in the regional agenda.

The regional agenda recognizes the need to adopt an approach of universalism that is sensitive to differences in order to achieve inclusive social development. This means, first, guaranteeing access to social services for all from a rights-based perspective and, second, adopting a course aimed at overcoming gaps and inequalities, leaving no one behind, which requires breaking down access barriers for individuals and groups experiencing different forms of inequality, discrimination and exclusion. The 2030 Agenda affirms that “as we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind [...] and we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first” (United Nations, 2015, para. 4).

Another principle of the regional agenda that is directly correlated to the 2030 Agenda is that of adopting a systemic perspective on sustainable development. While the regional agenda holds that social development requires not only social policies, but also inclusive and sustainable economic growth, together with protection of the environment, the 2030 Agenda upholds that environmental sustainability, social and labour inclusion and economic growth are indivisible and underscores the integrated nature of and interlinkages between human rights, the dignity of individuals and the commitment of States to respect, protect, promote and fulfil them (United Nations, 2015, preamble).

The regional agenda also establishes the principle of high-quality public policies and lists a number of characteristics of and conditions required for such policies, underscoring the importance of means of implementation. While the 2030 Agenda does not mention the quality of public policy specifically, it does refer to the existence of means of implementation targets, which “are key to realizing our Agenda” (United Nations, 2015, para. 40).

Lastly, both agendas include in their principles the importance of partnerships and social compacts to consolidate State policies, including the need for shared responsibility, active participation of all sectors of society, and multilateral cooperation at regional and subregional levels to achieve social policy objectives.

There are, however, two principles of the regional agenda that are not directly referred to in the 2030 Agenda: the principle of a dignified life and progressive well-being and the notion that social policies must adopt an approach based on redistribution and solidarity, with financial sustainability. Although they are not explicitly mentioned in the 2030 Agenda, these are guiding principles that are consistent with respect for and observance of the Declaration of Human Rights, and also recognize the importance of establishing pacts and alliances, on the basis of solidarity.

B. THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND THE AXES OF THE REGIONAL AGENDA FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A meso-level analysis of the two instruments shows that there are strong links between the SDGs and the axes of the regional agenda. As can be seen in diagram 2, the axes of the regional agenda are linked to all the SDGs with explicit social aims and to most of the SDGs that come under the extended social pillar of the 2030 Agenda (ECLAC, 2018). The linkages between the two instruments show that implementing the axes of the regional agenda would not only help to close gaps and overcome the structural inequalities particular to the region, but also that, thanks to its basic design, it would support and strengthen the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Diagram 2

Links between the axes of the regional agenda for inclusive social development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

C. TARGETS OF THE 2030 AGENDA AND LINES OF ACTION OF THE REGIONAL AGENDA

Lastly, the linkages between the two agendas are also evident at the micro level: the targets of the 2030 Agenda and the lines of action relevant to each axis of the regional agenda. The details of these relationships in each of the proposed axes of the regional agenda are presented below.

1. Axis 1 - Universal and comprehensive social protection systems

With regard to axis 1, on **universal and comprehensive social protection systems**, table 1 shows that almost all the lines of action are related to one or more of the SDG targets. It is only action line 1.8 that has no direct link with any SDG, since it addresses the need to incorporate in the design of social protection policies the principle of actively searching for eligible persons to ensure coverage of all members of the population living in poverty and vulnerable situations.

Table 1
Linkages between lines of action under axis 1 of the regional agenda and SDG targets

Line of action	SDG targets
1.1	1.3; 3.8; 10.4
1.2	17.14
1.3	1.4
1.4	16.b; 17.14
1.5	3.8; 4.5; 6.2
1.6	5.4
1.7	1.3; 1.4
1.8	^a
1.9	8.3; 8.8
1.10	2.1; 2.2; 3.2; 4.2; 5.4
1.11	8.7; 17.14
1.12	2.1; 2.2; 2.4; 11.a
1.13	1.5
1.14	8.8; 10.7
1.15	11.5; 11.b

Source: Prepared by the authors.

^a No direct link to an SDG target found.

The relationships between each of the lines of action under axis 1 of the regional agenda and the SDG targets are outlined below.

- 1.1 Strengthen **comprehensive and universal social protection systems** that, in their design and operation, and in the design and operation of their policies and intervention models, mainstream the rights-based, gender, ethnic and racial, life-cycle, territorial and disability approaches.
 - (1.3) Implement nationally **appropriate social protection systems and measures for all**, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.

- (3.8) **Achieve universal health coverage**, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
 - (10.4) **Adopt** policies, especially fiscal, wage and **social protection policies**, and progressively achieve greater equality.
- 1.2 Establish **inter-institutional work** mechanisms involving the various social, labour and economic bodies, which will serve to agree upon the scope of the social protection system, structure roles and coordinate joint implementation models, at the central and decentralized levels, in order to implement the system's various components and instruments. In addition, strengthen the links between social protection policies and social and productive inclusion policies, in order to guarantee mechanisms for sustained reductions in poverty and inequality.
- (17.14) Enhance **policy coherence** for sustainable development.
- 1.3 Advance in consolidating the **guarantee of a basic level of income** for all, prioritizing those living in poverty and extreme poverty, considering appropriate coverage and amounts of income transfers, including non-contributory pensions for older persons and persons with disabilities, in conjunction with social security benefits, and benefits and transfers aimed at children and their families. Assess the desirability and feasibility of gradually and progressively incorporating a universal transfer for children and a citizen's basic income as active policies of social protection systems, given their contribution to ending poverty, reducing inequality and promoting inclusion in the face of emerging risks.
- (1.4) By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have **equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services**, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
- 1.4 Move towards ever greater **interlinkage between the components of social protection systems**. Promote **coordination** with social security institutions to broaden their coverage, the adequacy of their benefits and their sustainability, **eliminating any discriminatory mechanisms** that may persist in the design of their instruments, while drawing attention to the specific challenges faced by informal workers, unpaid caregivers, women, older persons, indigenous peoples, populations of African descent, persons with disabilities, the rural population and migrants.
- (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
 - (17.14) Enhance **policy coherence** for sustainable development.
- 1.5 Strengthen the guarantee of access to **education, health and housing** to enable the population to exercise rights, promoting linkages between sectoral policies and social protection, and seeking to increase coverage of the sectors, with a focus on the **population most affected by poverty and social exclusion**.
- (3.8) **Achieve universal health coverage**, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

- (4.5) By 2030, **eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable**, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
 - (6.2) By 2030, achieve **access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene** for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.
- 1.6 **Incorporate care into social protection systems**, interlinking care instruments with the other components, from a perspective of gender equality, rights, and **promotion of joint responsibility**, advancing towards universalization of care. This entails ensuring the accessibility of care policies, combining time, resources, services and regulations for dependent persons, including children, older persons, persons with disabilities, and caregivers of such dependants, paying special attention to the circumstances of young people who are not attending school and are excluded from the labour market by caregiving duties.
- (5.4) **Recognize and value unpaid care** and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies **and the promotion of shared responsibility** within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- 1.7 Define a set of **instruments appropriate to the social protection needs** of the population that, having emerged from poverty, is **socioeconomically vulnerable** and highly exposed to a return to poverty, guaranteeing protection of their income and access to mechanisms for social and labour inclusion. In addition, expand provision of benefits to middle-income sectors, in line with the goal of universal social protection.
- (1.3) Implement nationally **appropriate social protection systems and measures for all**, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
 - (1.4) By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have **equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services**, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
- 1.8 Incorporate into the design of social protection policies the principle of actively seeking out eligible participants in order to reach all those living in poverty and vulnerability, with integrated social information systems to assist in identifying the requirements of the various populations, facilitating their access to social protection and closing the existing gaps in coverage.
- 1.9 Consider the specific **social protection challenges of informal workers**, taking into account existing forms of informality and new forms that have arisen as a result of changes in the world of work, as well as the challenges related to the transition to an environmentally sustainable economy, **promoting strategies for formalization** of such workers and expansion of their access to social security.
- (8.3) Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the **formalization** and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.
 - (8.8) **Protect labour rights** and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in **precarious employment**.

- 1.10 Ensure that the benefits included in social protection systems have a **child-sensitive** perspective, taking into account the specific risks affecting children, strengthening their access to services aimed at building their capacities, family benefits and care. In particular, contribute to consolidation of comprehensive early childhood care systems through programmes that structure **social protection, health, nutrition, early education and care** actions, promoting the required intersectoral coordination.
- (2.1) By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, **including infants**, to **safe, nutritious and sufficient food** all year round.
 - (2.2) By 2030, **end all forms of malnutrition**, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting **in children under 5 years of age**, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.
 - (3.2) By 2030, **end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age**, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.
 - (4.2) By 2030, ensure that all **girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education** so that they are ready for primary education.
 - (5.4) **Recognize and value unpaid care** and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies **and the promotion of shared responsibility** within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- 1.11 Contribute to social protection initiatives for the **prevention and eradication of child labour**, strengthening existing actions by ministries of social development and equivalent bodies, as well as enhancing **coordination with other bodies** in this area, such as ministries of labour, education, trade unions, civil society organizations and the private sector.
- (8.7) Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and **elimination of the worst forms of child labour**, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.
 - (17.14) Enhance **policy coherence** for sustainable development.
- 1.12 Increase awareness of the specific social protection needs of **populations in rural areas**, promoting initiatives aimed at overcoming gaps in access to benefits, encompassing **food security** and considering linkages with local development strategies and strategies linked to the transition to environmentally sustainable economies.
- (2.1) By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, **including infants**, to **safe, nutritious and sufficient food** all year round.
 - (2.2) By 2030, **end all forms of malnutrition**, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting **in children under 5 years of age**, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.
 - (2.4) By 2030, **ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices** that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.
 - (11.a) Support **positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas** by strengthening national and regional development planning.

- 1.13 **Incorporate into social protection systems the challenges arising from the emerging risks affecting the region**, including the impacts of climate change, the technological revolution in the world of work and in other spheres of society, and violence and migration, designing instruments that are relevant to national and subregional realities.
- (1.5) By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and **reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters**.
- 1.14 Guarantee **access to social protection for migrants at all stages of the migration cycle**, taking into account the growing demand that migration flows put on related policies, and paying special attention to the circumstances of migrant children. Contribute to the construction and strengthening of agreements on the **portability of social security entitlements**. Also, treat social protection as one of the fundamental policies for addressing the root causes of migration in places of origin.
- (8.8) **Protect labour rights** and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in **precarious employment**.
 - (10.7) **Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people**, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.
- 1.15 Contribute to increasing the **response capacity of public institutions and the resilience of populations affected by humanitarian crises and disasters, especially those living in poverty, also taking into account the heightened vulnerability and limited response capacity** of children, women, older persons and persons with disabilities to adverse effects during and after crises.
- (11.5) By 2030, **significantly reduce the number of deaths** and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, **with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations**.
 - (11.b) By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, **mitigation** and adaptation **to climate change**, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

2. Axis 2 - Policies to promote social and labour inclusion

Proposed axis 2 of the regional agenda focuses on policies for social and labour inclusion. All of its lines of action are related to one or more SDG targets. There are identifiable links with SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 16 and 17, attesting to the high degree of alignment between both instruments (see table 2).

Table 2
Linkages between lines of action under axis 2 of the regional agenda and SDG targets

Line of action	SDG targets
2.1	17.18; 17.19
2.2	4.2; 10.3
2.3	4.3; 4.4; 4.6; 8.5; 8.6; 8.b
2.4	2.2; 3.8; 10.2; 16.1
2.5	8.5
2.6	1.b; 4.54; 4.a; 5.1; 5.2; 5.3; 5.5; 5.a; 5.b; 5.c; 6.2; 10.2; 16.b
2.7	2.3; 4.3; 5.1; 5.4; 8.5; 10.2; 16.b
2.8	10.2; 10.3; 16.b; 17.18
2.9	4.5; 8.5; 10.2; 10.3; 16.1; 16.b
2.10	2.3; 4.5; 8.5; 10.2
2.11	10.3; 16.1; 16.b
2.12	4.5; 4.a; 8.5; 10.2; 11.2; 11.7; 16.b
2.13	8.8; 10.2; 10.7
2.14	16.1; 17.14
2.15	6.2; 7.1; 9.c; 11.a
2.16	1.1; 6.2; 7.1; 9.c
2.17	2.3; 9.3
2.18	1.4; 2.3; 8.10
2.19	11.1
2.20	1.4; 4.b; 5.b; 9.c
2.21	5.b
2.22	13.b; 16.b

Source: Prepared by the authors.

The specific relationships between each of the lines of action under this axis of the regional agenda and the SDG targets are outlined below.

- 2.1 **Deepen analysis of the inequalities** that affect different populations and how they intersect and exacerbate each other, manifesting as inclusion gaps in various areas, and expand dissemination of information on such inequalities.
- (17.18) By 2020, **enhance capacity-building support** to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the **availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data** disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.
 - (17.19) By 2030, build on existing initiatives to **develop measurements of progress on sustainable development** that complement gross domestic product, and support **statistical capacity-building in developing countries**.
- 2.2 Prioritize actions to **equalize opportunities in early childhood and childhood**, to ensure that **children and adolescents enjoy their rights**, treating such actions as a strategic commitment to end poverty and reduce inequality in a sustainable manner.
- (4.2) By 2030, ensure that all **girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education** so that they are ready for primary education.

- (10.3) **Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome**, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

2.3 Further the development of policies and programmes that enable **young people** to follow a path of inclusion, with a special emphasis on **capacity development**, including technological, digital and socio-emotional skills, **access to decent work**, the balance between academic, work and family life, and participation, recognizing and responding to the heterogeneity of young people in the countries of the region. In particular, adopt measures to expand **inclusion opportunities for young people who do not attend school, are outside the labour market or are in conflict with the law**.

- (4.3) By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to **affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university**.
- (4.4) By 2030, substantially increase the number of **youth** and adults who have **relevant skills**, including technical and vocational skills, **for employment**, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
- (4.6) By 2030, ensure that all **youth** and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, **achieve literacy and numeracy**.
- (8.5) By 2030, achieve **full and productive employment and decent work** for all women and men, **including for young people** and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- (8.6) By 2020, **substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training**.
- (8.b) By 2020, develop and operationalize a **global strategy for youth employment** and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization.

2.4 Promote actions that enhance the autonomy and dignity of **older persons** and full respect for their rights, including the right to **live a life free of violence** and to **participation**, with a focus on **economic security**, and **access to health** and long-term care.

- (2.2) By 2030, **end all forms of malnutrition**, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting **in children under 5 years of age**, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.
- (3.8) **Achieve universal health coverage**, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
- (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- (16.1) **Significantly reduce all forms of violence** and related death rates everywhere.

2.5 Promote access to **productive, good-quality employment** and decent work **for all**.

- (8.5) By 2030, achieve **full and productive employment and decent work** for all women and men, **including for young people** and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

- 2.6 Ensure the incorporation of the **gender** and ethno-racial approach into **social and labour inclusion** policies, aiming to eliminate stereotypes and forms of **discrimination** that may exist in social policies.
- (1.b) Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and **gender-sensitive development strategies**, to support accelerated investment in **poverty eradication** actions.
 - (4.5) By 2030, **eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable**, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
 - (4.a) Build and upgrade **education facilities** that are child, disability and **gender sensitive** and provide **safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective** learning environments for all.
 - (5.1) **End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls** everywhere.
 - (5.2) **Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls** in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
 - (5.3) **Eliminate all harmful practices**, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.
 - (5.5) **Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership** at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.
 - (5.a) Undertake reforms to **give women equal rights to economic resources**, as well as access to **ownership and control over land and other forms of property**, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.
 - (5.b) Enhance the **use of enabling technology**, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the **empowerment of women**.
 - (5.c) Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of **gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels**.
 - (6.2) By 2030, achieve **access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene** for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.
 - (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status**.
 - (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- 2.7 Promote policies and programmes for inclusion of women in the **labour market and production**, particularly to **eliminate the various barriers to women's labour market participation**, with a focus on strengthening **care policies and systems**. Foster **education and training initiatives**, especially in areas from which women have traditionally been excluded, such as science, technology and innovation. Promote access to **decent work** and support measures to formalize employment among women, including paid **domestic labour**, as well as measures to achieve greater **wage equality** between men and women and better working conditions.
- (2.3) By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, **in particular women**, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through **secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment**.

- (4.3) By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to **affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university**.
- (5.1) **End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls** everywhere.
- (5.4) **Recognize and value unpaid care** and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies **and the promotion of shared responsibility** within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- (8.5) By 2030, achieve **full and productive employment and decent work** for all women and men, **including for young people** and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.

2.8 Undertake actions to promote **racial equality and combat racism**. As part of this work, processes must be developed to **raise awareness of racism and ethno-racial inequality**, including questions related to ethnic and racial self-identification in national statistical systems and in the administrative records of all programmes in the social area.

- (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- (10.3) **Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome**, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.
- (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- (17.18) By 2020, **enhance capacity-building support** to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the **availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data** disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

2.9 **Guarantee the rights of people of African descent and their communities**. Undertake direct actions to address the **violence** experienced by Afrodescendants and measures to break down the **multiple access barriers** they face in relation to education, health and decent work, through affirmative actions that may include active search mechanisms aimed at these populations and the definition of quotas reserved for them in education and in the labour market, and the application of a multiracial approach in health and education services.

- (4.5) By 2030, **eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable**, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
- (8.5) By 2030, achieve **full and productive employment and decent work** for all women and men, **including for young people** and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

- (10.3) **Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome**, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.
 - (16.1) **Significantly reduce all forms of violence** and related death rates everywhere.
 - (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- 2.10 Deepen efforts to recognize the **collective rights of indigenous peoples** and to promote equality and improvement in their living conditions through actions with an approach **based on equality**, non-discrimination and cultural diversity, including designing and implementing social and labour inclusion policies, encouraging the adoption of an intercultural approach to policy design and implementation —particularly in **education** and health— and ensuring indigenous people’s access to basic services and infrastructure. Affirmative action must also be taken to increase indigenous people’s access to **educational opportunities and decent work**.
- (2.3) By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, **in particular women**, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through **secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment**.
 - (4.5) By 2030, **eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable**, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
 - (8.5) By 2030, achieve **full and productive employment and decent work** for all women and men, **including for young people** and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
 - (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- 2.11 Combat homophobia and transphobia and take measures to **ensure access to education, productive employment and decent work, without discrimination** based on sexual orientation or gender identity, with mechanisms to support inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons and **eradicate the violence** they experience.
- (10.3) **Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome**, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.
 - (16.1) **Significantly reduce all forms of violence** and related death rates everywhere.
 - (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- 2.12 Deepen efforts to ensure accessibility and opportunities for **persons with disabilities**, to ensure they enjoy their rights on an **equal basis**. Among other actions, this may include: **mainstreaming the disability approach in social development policies**; promoting awareness-raising initiatives to combat prejudices and stereotypes about persons with disabilities; fostering measures to promote **inclusion of persons with disabilities in the labour market and in production**, such as **access to technical and vocational education and training**; ensuring reasonable accommodation in the workplace and implementing affirmative action, particularly in access to tertiary education and to employment.

- (4.5) By 2030, **eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable**, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.
 - (4.a) Build and upgrade **education facilities** that are child, disability and **gender sensitive** and provide **safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective** learning environments for all.
 - (8.5) By 2030, achieve **full and productive employment and decent work** for all women and men, **including for young people** and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
 - (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
 - (11.2) By 2030, provide access to **safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety**, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, **persons with disabilities** and older persons.
 - (11.7) By 2030, provide universal access to **safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces**, in particular for women and children, older persons and **persons with disabilities**.
 - (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- 2.13 Promote actions to recognize and value the positive contributions that **migrants** make to societies in countries of destination and origin. Encourage the establishment of new public instruments to address migratory phenomena, for example by fostering policies and programmes relating to local development and **employment generation** in countries of origin and mechanisms to **protect the rights of migrants**, regardless of their legal status, throughout the migration cycle. Take action to promote the **inclusion of migrants in education, health and decent work**.
- (8.8) **Protect labour rights** and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in **precarious employment**.
 - (10.2) By 2030, empower and promote the **social, economic and political inclusion** of all, **irrespective of age**, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
 - (10.7) **Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people**, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.
- 2.14 Advance in analysis of the impact of the various **forms of violence** on social and labour inclusion, governance, social cohesion and the enjoyment of rights. Put forward **multisectoral policy** proposals to address this impact, including recognition of victims of violence and reintegration of people who have been in conflict with the law.
- (16.1) **Significantly reduce all forms of violence** and related death rates everywhere.
 - (17.14) Enhance **policy coherence** for sustainable development.
- 2.15 Reduce **territorial inclusion** gaps by implementing policies to increase **access to basic services and infrastructure**, including Internet access, and to improve equal opportunities in access to productive employment and decent work, taking into account the specificities of the population living in **rural and deprived areas, or in marginalized urban areas**.

- (6.2) By 2030, achieve **access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene** for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.
 - (7.1) By 2030, **ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services**.
 - (9.c) Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide **universal and affordable access to the Internet** in least developed countries by 2020.
 - (11.a) Support **positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas** by strengthening national and regional development planning.
- 2.16 Undertake structured multisectoral actions that address social, economic, political and environmental challenges relating to the promotion of rural development and the reduction of **rural poverty**. As part of this, **expand access** to natural and productive resources, **services, technologies, markets** and public procurement programmes and strengthen local governments and rural institutions, including family farmer organizations, producers' organizations and cooperatives, empowering people to participate in decision-making on rural development policies.
- (1.1) By 2030, **eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere**, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day.
 - (6.2) By 2030, achieve **access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene** for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.
 - (7.1) By 2030, **ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services**.
 - (9.c) Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide **universal and affordable access to the Internet** in least developed countries by 2020.
- 2.17 Support the social and solidarity economy as a means of addressing the shortfall in decent work through **access to finance**, such as **microcredit, microfinance and microinsurance** schemes. Strengthen the skills of those engaged in the social and solidarity economy and bolster networks for sharing knowledge and experience. Facilitate links with the market and participation in public procurement programmes to promote the sustainability of production units in the social and solidarity economy, with differentiated strategies for urban and rural areas.
- (2.3) By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, **in particular women**, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through **secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment**.
 - (9.3) **Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.**
- 2.18 Promote actions to deepen **financial inclusion** of households, in order to promote their financial autonomy, enabling access to formal financial services for those who are excluded and **improving use of the financial system among those who already participate in formal financing channels**.
- (1.4) By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have **equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services**, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

- (2.3) By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, **in particular women**, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through **secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment**.
 - (8.10) **Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.**
- 2.19 Promote **access to housing policies and programmes**, while working to improve the living conditions of populations living in **informal settlements and inadequate housing**.
- (11.1) By 2030, ensure **access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums**.
- 2.20 **Close the digital divide in terms of access, knowledge and skills**, so that everyone can participate fully in the information society and harness the potential of technological tools **to achieve greater inclusion in various fields**, with a focus on older persons, persons with disabilities, those living in rural areas and low-income households.
- (1.4) By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have **equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services**, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.
 - (4.b) By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, **for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes**, in developed countries and other developing countries.
 - (5.b) Enhance the **use of enabling technology**, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the **empowerment of women**.
 - (9.c) Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide **universal and affordable access to the Internet** in least developed countries by 2020.
- 2.21 **Pursue efforts to take advantage of the changes resulting from the current technological revolution, in order to achieve greater social and labour inclusion**, and ensure that development initiatives in digital government in areas such as communication, remote assistance and digitalization of procedures take into account the specific cultural, educational and capacity-related characteristics of the various segments of the population, thereby enhancing effectiveness and efficiency and closing gaps.
- (5.b) Enhance the **use of enabling technology**, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the **empowerment of women**.
- 2.22 **Mainstream the social inclusion approach** in decision-making processes in all public policies, including social policies in sectors such as health, education, work and housing, as well as economic and **environmental** policies. This includes promoting social and labour inclusion initiatives in ministries and secretariats responsible for production policies and technological development policies.

- (13.b) Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective **climate change-related** planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including **focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities**.
- (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.

3. Axis 3 - A strengthened social institutional framework

In the case of axis 3, which focuses on a strengthened framework of social institutions, it is also clear that all lines of action are related to one or more SDG target (see table 3). In this case in particular, most of the links are with SDGs 16 and 17, reflecting the fact that this axis consists primarily of measures that provide the means of implementation for the lines of action of axes 1 and 2.

Table 3
Linkages between lines of action under axis 3 of the regional agenda and SDG targets

Line of action	SDG targets
3.1.1	1.b
3.1.2	16.3
3.1.3	16.b
3.1.4	16.7
3.1.5	16.6
3.1.6	17.14
3.1.7	17.14
3.1.8	16.b
3.1.9	17.18
3.1.10	17.18
3.2.1	17.1
3.2.2	17.1
3.2.3	1.b

Source: Prepared by the authors.

The relationships between each of the lines of action under this axis of the regional agenda and the SDG targets are outlined below.

3.1 Establish, formalize and strengthen social institutional frameworks.

- 3.1.1 Advocate **adaptation of national legal frameworks** to the mandates of the key instruments of **international law** related to guaranteeing human rights, and particularly economic, social and cultural rights.
- (1.b) Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and **gender-sensitive development strategies**, to support accelerated investment in **poverty eradication** actions.
- 3.1.2 **Strengthen the regulatory framework** of ministries, secretariats and collegial bodies responsible for social development policies, as well as subnational and autonomous entities that participate in social policy management in the countries.
- (16.3) **Promote the rule of law** at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

- 3.1.3 **Formulate regulatory and policy-design frameworks that guarantee the recognition, well-being and rights of the diverse groups of the population**, ensuring their sustainability.
- (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- 3.1.4 Create and strengthen **mechanisms for active participation by the target population and civil society** organizations in the design, implementation and evaluation of the social policies and programmes of ministries of social development and equivalent bodies.
- (16.7) Ensure responsive, **inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making** at all levels.
- 3.1.5 Strengthen **mechanisms for dissemination, transparency and accountability** of existing benefits and their allocation, considering in particular the accessibility requirements of groups subject to greater exclusion.
- (16.6) Develop **effective, accountable and transparent institutions** at all levels.
- 3.1.6 Strengthen **horizontal coordination mechanisms at the central government level, for the management of intersectoral policies**. Nominate an authority capable of ensuring that such mechanisms function and are properly structured —such as a social cabinet— in accordance with the mandates of ministries of social development or equivalent bodies. In particular, develop regulations that give stability to social protection systems and provide intersectoral coordination mechanisms for operation of such systems, through measures such as the creation of high-level technical bodies.
- (17.14) Enhance **policy coherence** for sustainable development.
- 3.1.7 Strengthen mechanisms for **vertical coordination between the different levels of government**, to avoid duplication, foster synergies, deepen decentralization and local development processes, strengthen technical and information capacities at all levels of government, and increase territorial ownership of social development policies.
- (17.14) Enhance **policy coherence** for sustainable development.
- 3.1.8 Strengthen the **rights-based and inclusion approach** in the management processes of ministries of social development and equivalent bodies, including clearly defined procedures and training initiatives for public officials.
- (16.b) Promote and enforce **non-discriminatory laws and policies** for sustainable development.
- 3.1.9 Consolidate information, monitoring and evaluation systems for social benefits, including **records of the target or potential target population disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, race, age, territory, disability and other criteria that may be linked to increased vulnerability**. Design these systems in such a way to allow them to be updated and monitored on a continuous basis, making them standardized and easily accessible for use by various public entities, enabling identification of gaps and inequalities in access to benefits and reducing errors of exclusion or inclusion. Improve the quality of policies and fulfilment of policy goals.

- (17.18) By 2020, **enhance capacity-building support** to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the **availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data** disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.
- 3.1.10 Include and consolidate **the statistical identification and visibility of different population groups** in all the data sources and administrative records used in social policies and programmes, including: women, young people, older persons, indigenous peoples, persons of African descent, persons with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ persons and homeless persons. Ensure that this information is properly stored and easily accessible for consultation through appropriate technologies for all public entities, civil society organizations and the general public, to foster development of evidence-based social policymaking.
- (17.18) By 2020, **enhance capacity-building support** to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the **availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data** disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.
- 3.2 Safeguard and consolidate the financing of social policy.
- 3.2.1 **Prioritize, consolidate and safeguard the financing of social policy, protecting and guaranteeing resources**, especially those aimed at the well-being of children, adolescents, and other more vulnerable populations that are subject to greater exclusion and discrimination.
- (17.1) **Strengthen domestic resource mobilization**, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection.
- 3.2.2 Promote the **sustainability of social protection benefits**, maintaining levels of investment at least at their present value and avoiding cuts. Advocate the formulation of fiscal rules which, in line with the reaffirmation of the rights approach, ensure the necessary resources for policy sustainability.
- (17.1) **Strengthen domestic resource mobilization**, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection.
- 3.2.3 Reaffirm, at the national and regional levels, the idea that social **policy financing should be treated as an investment**. Encourage analysis of the **impact of social policy financing on poverty** and inequality, to advance in the three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental.
- (1.b) Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and **gender-sensitive development strategies**, to support accelerated investment in **poverty eradication** actions.

4. Axis 4 - Regional cooperation and integration

The lines of action of axis 4, which focuses on regional cooperation and integration, are linked with SDGs 16 and 17 only, with some lines of action having no direct links with the 2030 Agenda. This is because these are concrete measures related to regional and subregional agreements on important procedures in the area of cooperation and integration.

Table 4
Linkages between lines of action under axis 4 of the regional agenda and SDG targets

Line of action	SDG targets
4.1	16.8
4.2	17.9
4.3	a
4.4	a
4.5	a
4.6	a

Source: Prepared by the authors.

^a No direct link to an SDG target found.

The relationships between the regional agenda and the SDG targets are outlined below.

- 4.1 **Link up the commitments and exchanges of the various regional and subregional forums** to support implementation of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda, within the framework of the mandates of ministries of social development and equivalent bodies and of the Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - (16.8) Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the **institutions of global governance**.
- 4.2 Strengthen the **spaces and capacities for international cooperation** among ministries of social development and equivalent bodies, through channels and mechanisms for **South-South cooperation** on development and social protection among Latin American and Caribbean countries and with other regions.
 - (17.9) Enhance **international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building** in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through **North-South, South-South** and triangular **cooperation**.
- 4.3 Create joint working groups on specific thematic and policy areas identified by governments, made up of specialized technical teams from countries, to promote the experience-sharing and the fostering of common agendas at the regional and subregional levels and among countries from different subregions, as well as civil society participation and dialogue.
- 4.4 Promote the exchange of experiences relating to institutional frameworks and management of social development policies and programmes, especially with regard to best practices in intersectoral coordination and mechanisms to ensure their financing is sustainable.

- 4.5 Further comparative research and regional discussions on issues related to inclusive social development, strengthening and coordinating networks of specialists from government, academia, civil society, the private sector and other regional bodies.
- 4.6 Exchange and disseminate information and statistical data, taking advantage of regional and national public goods such as observatories and forums related to social development.

D. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The regional agenda for inclusive social development is a tool that seeks to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by proposing principles, axes and lines of action that are intrinsically related to the principles, Goals and targets of sustainable development. The agenda proposes synergic actions aimed at achieving inclusive social development throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, taking into account the main issues addressed in existing regional and subregional agreements on social development. This allows for an agenda that is tailored more closely to the reality of Latin America and the Caribbean, with a view to strengthening the implementation of the social goals and objectives of sustainable development, particularly in areas related to the mandates of the ministries of social development and equivalent bodies.

In line with the approach adopted in the design of the regional agenda, the analysis carried out shows that there is a high degree of convergence between the 2030 Agenda and the regional and subregional social development commitments undertaken in intergovernmental forums involving ministries of social development and equivalent bodies. Consequently, the regional agenda for inclusive social development should boost the implementation of agreements —through entities working in synergy— and strengthen existing agreements, with a view to achieving the SDGs, improving well-being and guaranteeing the rights of the region's population as a whole.

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